(C O P Y)

November 6, 1931.

S
Insect Control

The Forester,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

There follows a summary of insect conditions on each forest in this Region compiled from reports submitted by the Supervisors.

APACHE

Insect damage is found scattered over various parts of the forest, but is not of sufficient importance to warrant any action at present.

CARSON

Tent Caterpillar

Infestation in aspen starting on the Canjilon District spread rapidly in ever widening circles over the entire Amarilla Division of the forest and into Colorado. Along the outer edge of the spread the infestation appears to be strong; inside it is believed to be getting weaker year by year. Extensive stands of aspen formerly completely defoliated show little sign of caterpillar work this year. Rangers report parasites working and it is believed that endemic conditions will be reached in the next two or three years. The only damage is in thinning of the aspen crowns, but it is believed no permanent damage will result.

Spruce Bud-worm

Infestation on the Amarilla Division on white fir and Douglas fir appears less severe this year as compared to 1930, this being particularly noticeable on the Ben Lee sale area.

Bark Beetles

No unusual infestation in the pine stands has been noted during the year.

CROOK

Losses from bark beetles have decreased rapidly in 1931, as compared with 1930 and the 1930 losses were less than 1929. Losses are now considered normal and confined largely to overmature stands of western yellow pine. The infestation on Mt. Greham may now be considered endemic. An examination of the Mt. Graham area made this year by a member of the Regional Office confirms the above report. During the past several years there has been a rather severe loss of timber in the Graham Mountains due to insect attacks. This has been largely confined to western yellow pine and to stands of spruce.

COCONINO

Bark beetle damage may now be considered normal or below, judging from conditions during the past ten or twelve years. Lightning damage in 1931, was again severe and insects generally attack and kill pine damaged by lightning. The infestation at Turkey Tanks still is responsible for a small amount of damage, but this is somewhat less than in years just past. Some damage has been noticed during the year in the cork bark fir and Engelmann spruce stands on the San Francisco Peaks. This is as yet not serious.

CORONADO

Some Ips damage has resulted during this year, but no other insect attack worthy of note has occurred on the forest.

GILA

No new areas have come to the attention of the local force showing serious insect infestation.

LINCOLN

The season's examinations indicate that the forest is entirely clear of insect attacks worthy of consideration. Only small occasional losses from Ips near cutting operations.

MANZANO-DATIL

There have been no serious insect infestations on the forests during the past year. The Ips attack on the various small sale areas has caused very little loss as compared to former years.

PRESCOTT

Insect activity on the forest as a whole seems to be less this year than for the past few years. Some increase has been noted in the Turkey Creek unit; attacks on Camp Wood area in endemic state, largely Ips.

SITGREAVES

Some loss from bark beetles largely confined, however, to lightning struck trees. Tip moth activity in reproduction along the lower limits of the western yellow pine type has been especially bad.

SANTA FE

Insect situation normal as regards bark beetles. The spruce budworm has shown no unusual activity. The aspen defoliator attacks have been rather wide-spread, heavy attacks being noted in May and June.

TONTO

Conditions normal.

TUSAYAN

No serious infestation on the forest; only occasional losses of overmature trees.

The reports received from the supervisors indicate that bark beetle attacks are normal or below. No areas need control. The reason for the slight amount of insect losses this year cannot be definitely determined, but is, no doubt, influenced to a certain extent by climatic conditions. The especially good height growth observed over the Region in seedlings, saplings and small poles and favorable diameter growth reached on merchantable sized trees would indicate that other conditions than moisture were also favorable, since other years with an equal amount of moisture, growth failed to show such excellent results. It is probable that higher temperatures and moisture distribution had appreciable affects. These excellent growth conditions, no doubt, influenced bark beetle attacks to a certain degree.

Very truly yours,

FRANK C.W.POOLER, Regional Forester,

By (ε) John D. Jones, Acting